

# HOW·NI·KAN

## PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

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CITIZEN BAND POTAWATOMI TRIBE

JUNE 1984



### St. Gregory's dedicates Tekakwitha statue

Fr. Vincent Traynor, O.S.B., invites the Indian community of Shawnee, along with everyone else, to the unveiling and dedication of a life-size statue in bronze of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha.

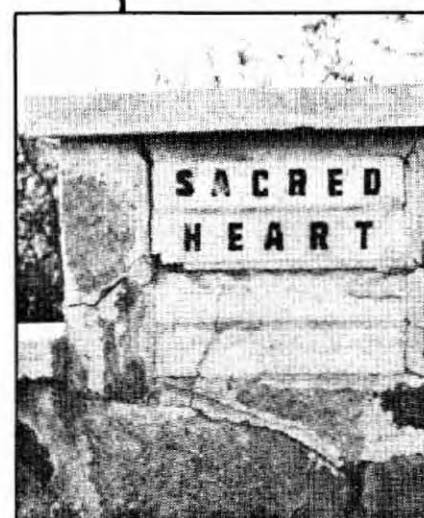
The statue is being dedicated as a tribute to all Native Americans and will take place on the campus of St. Gregory's College in Shawnee, Oklahoma, on Sunday, July 15, beginning at 2 p.m. Following the dedication there will be dancing and a meal will be served in the evening. The head staff has been selected from different sections of the state.

Blessed Kateri, the Lily of the Mohawks, is the pride of all Native Americans, and St. Gregory's is happy to extend an invitation to all who are interested in our common heritage.

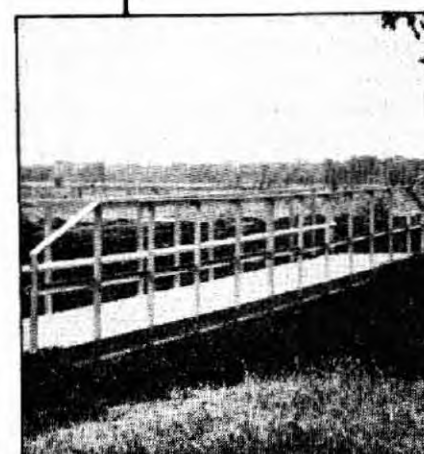
Patrick O'Connor, son of Pat and Ara Mae O'Connor and part Potawatomi, was commissioned to sculpt the statue. He, along with other dignitaries, including honored senior citizens Jimmy Stevens and Lily Whitehorn, will be present for the dedication.

Fr. Vincent says, "Sho Te Byan!" (See related story, page three.)

### Inside:



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### Tribe receives \$112,000 grant

The Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe of Oklahoma has received preliminary notification from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Human Development Services, A.N.A. (Administration for Native Americans) Announcement 13612-842, of approval of a grant in the amount of \$112,000.

The grant will fund a tribal project to develop and support commercial codes, taxation codes, environmental protection codes, legal codes and establishment of a corporation commission for the tribe. Through the establishment of tribal codes the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe will be able to serve its tribal members as a functioning governmental body, as mandated by current federal law and prevailing U.S. Supreme Court decisions.

While this amount of funding is for one year, it is projected in the

(continued page 6)

### Historical weekend upcoming

The last weekend in June will make Citizen Band Potawatomi history, as well provide numerous memorable experiences for those tribal members able to visit Shawnee.

There will be a three day pow wow, the annual General Council meeting, the grand opening of the Potawatomi convenience store and the opportunity to visit the tribe's museum, Fire Lake Golf Course and the bingo hall.

#### General Council

The annual gathering of tribal members living within driving distance of the administrative complex will begin at 3 p.m. on June 30, and is expected to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. At that time a special meeting will be called by Chairman Leon Bruno to hear discussion on a personnel action on former administrator John Schoemann. The special meeting was requested by petition. Dinner for all tribal members will be held at 6 p.m. at the pow wow grounds. (For complete agenda see page 6.)

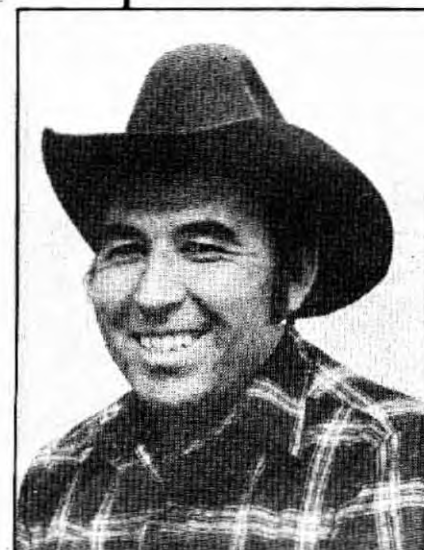
#### Election

From 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. on June 30, tribal members will be able to cast their vote for the position of Secretary-Treasurer and Vice Chairman, as well as their vote on a proposed resolution (see attached) authorizing the Business Committee to negotiate and execute contracts with attorneys.

Approximately 700 tribal members unable to attend the General Council meeting will be making tribal history when their absentee ballots are counted by the Election Commission.

#### Pow Wow

The 11th Annual Pottawatomie Intertribal Pow Wow Club Pow Wow will begin at approximately 7 p.m. on June 29 and continue through July 1. Pow wow princesses, gourd and competition dancing, northern and southern drums and native arts and crafts will all be part of the fun. Camping on the pow wow grounds is allowed and R.V. hookups are available.



Portrait of a  
Chairman - page 5



# Dissident faction attempts takeover

At 8 a.m., on the first Monday in June, several tribal members attempted a takeover of the Potawatomi tribal administration building.

Jim Tacker, Ed Pecore, Anna Hudson, Wanita Clifford and Thelma Wano Bateman entered the reception area adjacent to the tribal administrator's office, informed him that they were the new business committee and were taking over and that he was no longer employed by the tribe.

Tribal administrator John Barrett informed the group that they knew what they were doing was unconstitutional and asked them to leave. When they refused, law enforcement representatives from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the city of Shawnee were contacted for assistance.

The group's claim that they were the new business committee apparently stemmed from a meeting held the previous Sunday

between a small faction of tribal members and principals of Enterprise Management Consultants — the bingo management firm currently in litigation with the tribe.

After repeatedly being asked to leave the reception area so as not to interfere with tribal operations, the dissident group placed a phone call to Joe Walker, superintendent of the Shawnee Agency Bureau of Indian Affairs. Pecore, who was claiming to be chairman, told Walker that the group would leave the premises "if ordered to" but that the administrator and chairman Leon Bruno would "only ask" them to. "If they won't even order us to leave," said Pecore, "they should just pack up and get out."

After chairman Bruno advised the group in writing to leave the administrator's office, they were peacefully escorted out by law enforcement officials. Bateman

and Clifford are candidates for business committee positions in the upcoming election; Hudson is a former tribal employee. Tacker was on the business committee when the original contracts with Enterprise Management Consultants were signed in 1982. Former tribal administrator John Schoemann, who was fired in July of last year, also accompanied the group.

After chairman Bruno requested that Walker issue an opinion on the group's claim to be "the new business committee," Walker wrote a letter stating in part: "...it appears that the removal and replacement of the grievance committee on May 19, 1984 (see HowNiKan, May, 1984) does not conform to constitutional requirements. As a consequence, subsequent action to remove and replace four members of the business committee can not be deemed to be pursuant to the

constitution. We will therefore, continue to maintain our government to government relationship with the Citizen (Band) Potawatomi Business Committee which was in place prior to June 3, 1984."

Walker continued: "To clarify further that it is the tribe, not the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which determines who the elected officials of the tribe are, perhaps it will be helpful to mention ... President Reagan's Indian policy statement. 'Early in this nation's dealings with Indian tribes federal employees began to perform Indian tribal government functions ... The federal government must move away from this surrogate role which undermines the concept of self-government ... The only effective way for Indian(s) ... to develop is through tribal governments which are responsive and accountable to their members.'"

## Correction!

In the May, 1984 issue of the HowNiKan we inadvertently missed listing Joanna Mohler as a staff member in the article on the tribal Community Health Representative Program. Ms. Mohler is the CHR staff nutritionist and does an excellent job. Sorry Joanna!



HowNiKan is a publication of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe of Oklahoma. The offices are located at 1900 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

The purpose of HowNiKan is to act as the official publication of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe and to meet the needs of its members for dissemination of information.

HowNiKan is mailed free to all enrolled Potawatomi Tribal members. Subscriptions are \$6 annually for non-tribal members. Reprint permission is granted with credit to HowNiKan or the Potawatomi Tribe. All editorials and letters become the property of HowNiKan. Submissions for publication must be signed by the author and include a traceable address.

Change of address or address corrections should be mailed to HowNiKan, Route 5, Box 151, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801, or called in to (405) 275-3121.

### Business Committee

Chairman - Robert "Leon" Bruno  
Vice Chairman - Doyle Owens  
Sec/Treasurer - Thelma Wano Bateman  
Committeeman - Max Wano  
Committeeman - C.B. Hitt

Tribal Administrator  
John Barrett

Editor  
Patricia Sulcer

## Tribal politics cited as barrier

Ross Swimmer, Chief of the Cherokee Indians of Oklahoma and Co-Chairman of the Presidential Commission on Indian Reservation Economies, has identified Tribal political instability as one barrier to economic development in Indian country.

In an Oklahoma newspaper article about some of the business advantages enjoyed by Tribes—primarily freedom from state regulations and taxes—Swimmer said: "Indian Tribes are just beginning to realize their potential to lure industry away from the competition." Then he added: "One of the barriers to economic development is the political factions (within Tribes)."

Some Tribes are still relatively unstable...and the company wants to know what his deal is...they don't want to be forced off the Reservation or Indian country when the new chief or administration comes in."

A Comanche Tribal member, Toby Robles, illustrated Swimmer's point with reference to his tribe's oil company. Robles noted that each Tribal member held one share in the Comanche Energy research company and the Tribal chairman is the head of the company. Electing a new tribal chairman "could possibly cause problems," Robles said. "because the Tribe has no constitutional guidelines and there is disagreement within the Tribe about how it should be run."

## Summer projects

The Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe, in conjunction with the Jobs Training Partnership Act Program, is hiring 14 youth between the ages of 16 and 21 to participate in a summer jobs training program.

Projects for the summer program include construction of a footbridge connecting the pow wow grounds to the convenience store property; paving and landscaping the convenience store area; pavement of golf course paths and construction of a refreshment stand on the back nine holes; renovation of the historical "red barn" at the tribal

complex; security fencing of the golf course back nine holes; renovation of the existing "stone house" on the tribal grounds for use as a guest house and construction of a raised platform in the administrative "long room" for use as a council chamber.

The program, which will run from May 1 to August 31, will also employ four supervisors. Skill training available to the youth will include welding, carpentry, carpet laying, landscaping, chainlink fence building, painting, surveying, cement and dirt work.



JTPA youth sod 'the back 9' at the tribe's golf course



# The Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha — Lilly of the Mohawks

Tekakwitha was the daughter of a Christian Algonquin mother and a non-Christian Mohawk Chief.

She was born in 1656 on the south bank of the Mohawk River, in a village called Ossernenon.

When she was four years old, a smallpox epidemic claimed the lives of her parents and baby brother. Their names are unknown.

Tekakwitha survived the disease but her eyesight was impaired. Her face was scarred and the disease left her weak the rest of her life. After about five years of the sickness, the survivors of the village moved to the north bank of the river to begin a new life. Tekakwitha and her relatives moved into the turtle clan village called Gandaouague (Caughnawaga).

The first time she saw a priest was in 1667 when Fathers Fremin, Bruyas and Pierron visited Caughnawaga.

In 1670, St. Peter's Mission was established in Caughnawaga (Fonda, N.Y.). A chapel was built inside one of the longhouses. In 1674, Fr. James de Lamberville took charge of St. Peter's Mission.

Tekakwitha met Fr. de Lamberville a year later when he visited her home. She told him about her desire to become baptized. She began to take religious instruction, and in 1676, April 5th, on Easter Sunday, she was baptized and given the name Kateri or Katherine.

In August of 1677, Kateri fled her village to go and live at Sault St. Louis. St. Francis Xavier Mission near Montreal. Two months later and about two hundred miles through woods, rivers and swamps, Kateri arrived at the Sault with the help of friends and on Christmas Day, 1677, Kateri received her first Holy Communion.

During a winter hunt, Kateri was falsely accused of sinful relations with a hunter.

Mary Teresa (Tegaiaguenta) and Kateri became friends. Both girls performed extraordinary penances. Kateri and her friend asked permission to start a religious community. Request was denied.

In 1678, Kateri was enrolled in the pious society called The Holy Family because of her extraordinary practices of all

virtues. On March 25, 1679, at the Feast of the Annunciation, a moment after receiving holy communion, Kateri pronounced her vow of perpetual virginity.

Her whole life was devoted to teaching prayers to the children and helping the sick and the aged until she was struck with an illness that was to claim her life.

On April 17th, 1680, Wednesday of Holy Week, she died at 3 o'clock in the afternoon at the age of twenty-four. Her last words were: "Iesos konoronkwa."

"Jesus, I love you."

Fifteen minutes after her death before the eyes of two Jesuits and all the Indians that could fit into the room, the ugly scars on her face suddenly disappeared.

On January 3, 1943, she was declared Venerable by Pope Pius XII.

She was Beatified by Pope John Paul II on June 22, 1980.

This article was furnished by the Tekakwitha Conference, Great Falls, Montana.

## BIA running out of money

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is quickly running out of money to help the Indian poor and faces at least a \$7 million shortfall unless Congress helps cover the gap, agency officials report.

BIA officials told a House Appropriations subcommittee March 14th that an unexpectedly harsh winter and new regulations are to blame for the agency running out of money by mid-August.

But Rep. Sidney Yates, D-Illinois, said the Navajo Tribe, alone, estimates a \$9 million shortfall in welfare needs. BIA officials say they think the amount will be close to \$6 million on the nation's largest reservation.

The welfare funding shortfall was cited during the subcommittee's second day of consideration of the BIA's requested \$928.7 million budget for the next fiscal year to serve approximately 755,000 Indians and Alaska Natives living on or near reservations.

Theodore Krenzke, director of BIA Indian Services, said the BIA plans to seek \$7.4 million to close the anticipated current year general assistance gap.

"We will run out of funds in the middle part of August," said Krenzke. "I have a suspicion the \$7.4 million is on the low side."

"We continue to have a very cold winter, with late storms continuing in the Midwest," he said. "Some of the earlier calculations also were not adequate because we did not consider actions by Congress last year that provided up to a \$2,000 annual disregard per person in per capita payments by the tribes."

BIA officials said that in certain instances during the past year, per capita payments made to tribal members were exempt from consideration in determining their eligibility for general assistance.

Yates adjourned the hearing after a series of questions about reported problems with the BIA's management of Indian timber, oil and gas leases, and water rights but promised to hold a future session to explore the reports.

He said both the Quinault of Washington and the Cheyenne and Arapahoe tribes in Oklahoma had

reported the BIA took actions on their leases without consulting them.

Much of the first day of hearings dealt with problems with the BIA's automated data processing system and proposals to raid Indian programs to pay for a more than \$22 million ADP bill and with BIA education.

Also during the hearing:

— BIA education officials said the agency is the only federal education program not on "forward funding" giving schools advance notice of their appropriations for the next year. Currently, the BIA does not learn of its funding levels until at least six weeks after classes have begun. They said the BIA would need \$35 to \$40 million in transition money to move to the forward funding concept;

— Yates said he would add to the budget funding for a private review of the handicapped and special education programs for 280 Indian students in 28 institution locations and attending special education classes within regular school facilities;

— BIA officials said they believed Indian tribal courts can play a vital role in tribal life but the effectiveness varies from reservation to reservation. Krenzke said one Navajo judge, for example, handled 6,000 cases last year. The Navajos are seeking \$1.5 million for their tribal court system but the BIA is only appropriating \$717,000;

— Assistant Interior Secretary Ken Smith said the BIA will run out of all economic development grant funding by the end of the month. He said last year the BIA used \$5 million to help fund 21 projects that generated \$23.9 million in private financing, hopes to do as well this year and is seeking \$10 million for the next fiscal year;

— Smith also said the BIA is morally and legally committed to completing the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project but he was to withhold funding until the financial problems of the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry are resolved. The Indians have said the two are unrelated.

### Political Advertisement

## VOTE FOR WANITA CLIFFORD FOR VICE CHAIRPERSON

DEAR TRIBAL MEMBERS,

I have filed for the position of Vice-Chairman. In doing so, I have followed our approved Constitution and attempted to comply with the confused proposed election rules. The outcome of all this is still being questioned but my intention is not — I am a candidate for Vice-Chairman.

I feel I have much to offer in the way of proven leadership and a record of hard work for my tribe. I participated in the meetings when our beautiful golf course was first discussed. I urged the development of a gift shop — this dream is now a Gift and Smoke Shop that generates revenue to help us survive. The dream of commercial development, using our 30% set-aside, was also to be in our future. In my opinion, failure by our current business committee to call a General Council for Budget Approval has held up our 30% from being drawn down. Thousands of dollars would have been saved had this action been taken.

In 1977, I worked as a CHR. I was instrumental, along with Thelma Wano Bateman, in forming the Council on Aging. It was through this action that the current Title VI Elderly Nutrition Program came about. In 1979, I resigned my position as CHR Assistant Director to run for tribal Chairperson and was successful. During my term of office the Fire Lodge was completed, which now houses the Title VI Program and the Pro-shop for Fire Lake.

A point I must make is I am not against tribal sovereignty — just the abuse of it. This abuse prompted me along with other concerned tribal leaders to write our Congressional delegation to ask for their aid. I was frightened by what I could see happening to my tribe. I feel that first we are citizens of the United States with obligations and commitments to our Country. I could not support a policy that we as a tribe were outside the jurisdiction of the laws of our land. I had to speak out and request help to stop this abuse. The tribe had signed a contract with Enterprise Management and thus were honor bound to uphold accordingly. The action of barring these people from their own building and business was, I felt, too great a wrong to go uncensured. The Corp. was paying the correct share to the tribe. Now I am concerned for the tribe's reputation and ability to attract new business.

I, also, feel that I must speak out against nepotism. I did not hire any of my relatives when previously in office. I feel very strongly that nepotism in tribal operations is wrong. In my opinion it is being practiced by the current administration and has played a large part in the wrong doing that has occurred.

I am not against absentee voting, but I feel such a major change should be voted on by the General Council before it is enacted. The only means of contact with all tribal members, at this time, is the HowNiKan, which is being used as a political weapon of one-sided presentations by the current administration. We must have Free Press. UNITY is the Key to the Success and Progress of our Tribe. We must have more open Council Meetings to discuss any differences that arise and to have input from General Council on what action the Supreme Governing Body of this tribe wants or desires. I will strive for Unity by getting more people involved by appointment to sub-committees over our program.

Sincerely,

Wanita Clifford



## Florida Seminoles plan court

Florida's Seminole Tribe should begin operating a judicial system similar to the Miccosukee Tribal Court before the year's end, according to Seminole Tribal Attorney Jim Shore.

The Tribe has yet to finalize a code of law before it can choose the Seminole judges who will decide the criminal and civil matters of the Tribe's 1,500 people, Shore said. Crimes involving non-Indians on the Seminole's five Reservations in Hollywood, Big Cypress, Brighton, Immokalee and Tampa will remain in the jurisdiction of the state.

Shore said the court is needed so Seminoles will have a better chance at fair treatment than they sometimes do in federal and local courts.

"Now they'll be tried by their peers", he said. "When everyone knows the others in the Tribe, they feel that whatever judgement is handed down would be fair, not only to the community but to the Indian involved."

## Royalty interests deemed tax-free

The State of Montana cannot tax the Blackfeet Tribe's royalty interests from mineral leases made after 1938, according to an April 7th decision by the United States Court of Appeal for the Ninth Circuit. The en banc (full judge) panel opinion reversed an earlier district court decision in *Blackfeet v. Groff*. At the same time, the Ninth Circuit upheld the district court's earlier decision that leases made before 1938 were subject to state taxation. The Court said that a 1924 Act which expressly consented to taxation on the earlier leases was not repealed by the 1938 Indian Mineral Leasing Act.

For years the State of Montana has held all royalty interests on the Blackfeet's oil and gas leases subject to taxation. In 1978, the Tribe filed an action in federal court seeking to prevent Montana's taxation of tribal royalty interests from 125 existing leases. According to Jeanne Whiteing, staff attorney for the Native American Rights Fund, which represented the tribe in the Court of Appeals, all but 12 of the Tribe's oil and gas leases were signed after 1938.

The case has been sent back to the district court for a determination of whether the specific Montana taxes actually fall on the Tribe or the oil and gas producer (tax incidence). If the taxes fall on the royalty interest, they are invalid under the Ninth Circuit's decision. If the taxes fall on the producer, the Ninth Circuit directed the district court to determine whether the tax is preempted by federal law.

## Oklahombi out-Yanks York

Thanks to Andrew D. Bowles for submitting the following news clip from the Idaho Stateman in Boise, Idaho.

"During World War I, an American soldier named Pvt. Joseph Oklahombi, a full-blooded Choctaw Indian, singlehandedly captured 171 Germans in a battle near Saint-Etienne, France. You say you never heard of him? Odd. He did that thing the same day Sgt. Alvin York killed 20 and captured 132 Germans. You've heard of him."

## Health staff receives certificates

On June 5, the Business Committee of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe awarded eight certificates of meritorious service to persons employed in three tribal programs.

Mozella Larney, Director of the Indian Child Welfare Program, and Linda Schwake, a Registered Nurse in the Equity Health Program received certificates of appreciation for outstanding work in their individual departments.

Stan Holder, Director of Health Services; Ken Cadaret, Registered Nurse; Georgia Shaw, Licensed Practical Nurse; Christine Wood, Field Health Worker; Joanna Mohler, Nutritionist and Mary Lou Masquat, receptionist, all received commendations for outstanding dedication and service to the tribal Community Health Representative Program. John Barrett, tribal administrator, complimented the CHR staff, citing their involvement with the Central Tribes of the Shawnee Area (CTSA) Head Start Program, Title VI Elderly Feeding Program and, particularly, their dedicated work with Native Americans during the recent pertussis outbreak.

According to Barrett, "The Potawatomi Tribe can be very proud of these programs. Again and again, the employees have volunteered time, worked after hours and pursued extracurricular education in order to better serve the people. We are very fortunate to have this caliber of people working within three of the most important programs the Tribe has to offer."

## OU offers fellowships

The School of Library Science, University of Oklahoma, has been awarded two fellowships by the U. S. Department of Education under Title IIB of the Higher Education Act for 1984-1985. Priority for the fellowship awards goes to Native Americans who are entering the profession or who are interested in opportunities for professional advancement which might otherwise be unavailable to them. The fellowships are for the purpose of obtaining the Master's of Library Science.

The American Indian community is undergoing important transitions toward the accomplishment of self-determination for the future. Crucial to this aspiration are the opportunities to (1) develop the skills necessary to obtain and analyze information affecting decisions concerning the future of Native Americans and (2) develop strategies to improve information

services for Native Americans. "The ability to exploit information resources has become crucial, and it is necessary for library schools to assist, specifically by training American Indians to participate in the development of library services," said Dr. Sylvia Faibisoff, Director of the School of Library Science.

Applicants must meet the admission requirement of the School, and the deadline for fellowship applications will be August 1, 1984. Recipients of awards must begin the programs of study fulltime in the Fall 1984 term. Fellows will receive full tuition and a stipend of \$4000 for twelve months. For further information and application forms please contact: Dr. Sylvia Faibisoff or Dr. Rosemary Du Mont, Assistant Director, School of Library Science, University of Oklahoma, 401 West Brooks, Norman, OK 73019.

**Wanted: Original or copy of the marriage certificate of Austin B. Mulvane and Margaret Bertrand, Shawnee County, Kansas, 1893. I am their grandson and will gladly pay for expenses.**

**John A. McDonagh, Col. USAF (Ret), Tribal ID 11802, Santa Rosa, California 95401 Telephone (707) 527-9115**

## Political Advertisement

As the elected secretary/treasurer of your tribe, I can swear as God is my witness that I have only done my duties as if anyone or all of you were standing by my side and that is my promise to you for the future.

My ad is being censored to the point of almost nothing. I had written in excess of 1600 words but Pat Sulcer is refusing to write it as submitted.

If you think your tribe is not a big business ask that financial reports be published in the *HowNiKan*.

The Baugo Creek project seems to bother Mr. Peltier (uncle of the administrator) (father of an employee) (Brother-in-law of another employee). I voted against this because — I did not like hearing that a part of your 30% set aside money was for a park just out of South Bend, Indiana. Newspaper articles came back from Indiana verifying this.

Mr. Peltier does not tell you that last year he received reports, papers and meeting information that I feel were then and are presently yours.

Resolutions that I refused sign — Do ALL of YOU realize that we have a constitution now? ASK ME TO MAIL YOU ONE. I believe that you are the supreme governing body. All ac-

tions before have been approved by the General Council and I felt that I would not be one (1) of five (5) people who could take that from you. When changes to the constitution go out to referendum vote and you pass that — then, as I wrote on the bottom of a resolution "If you — the council wants it — that's great!"

A report can be found on record-reporting the missing resolutions. I was able to from copies put them back together. I did not want to leave my other records there without locks. Two weeks ago locks were put on one file drawer for me. I'm forced to play all kinds of frivolous games with this administration.

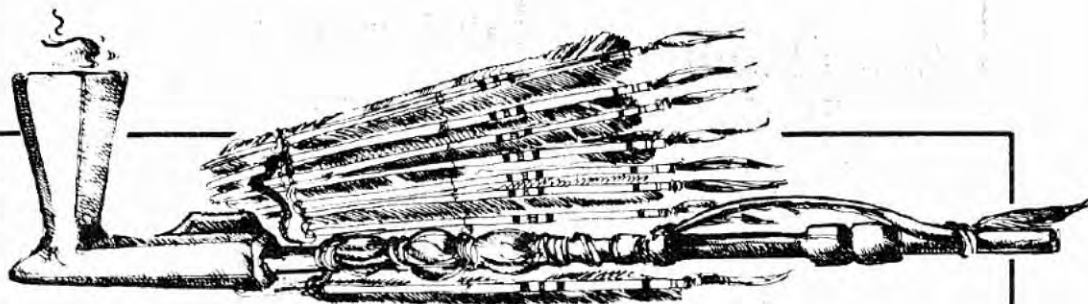
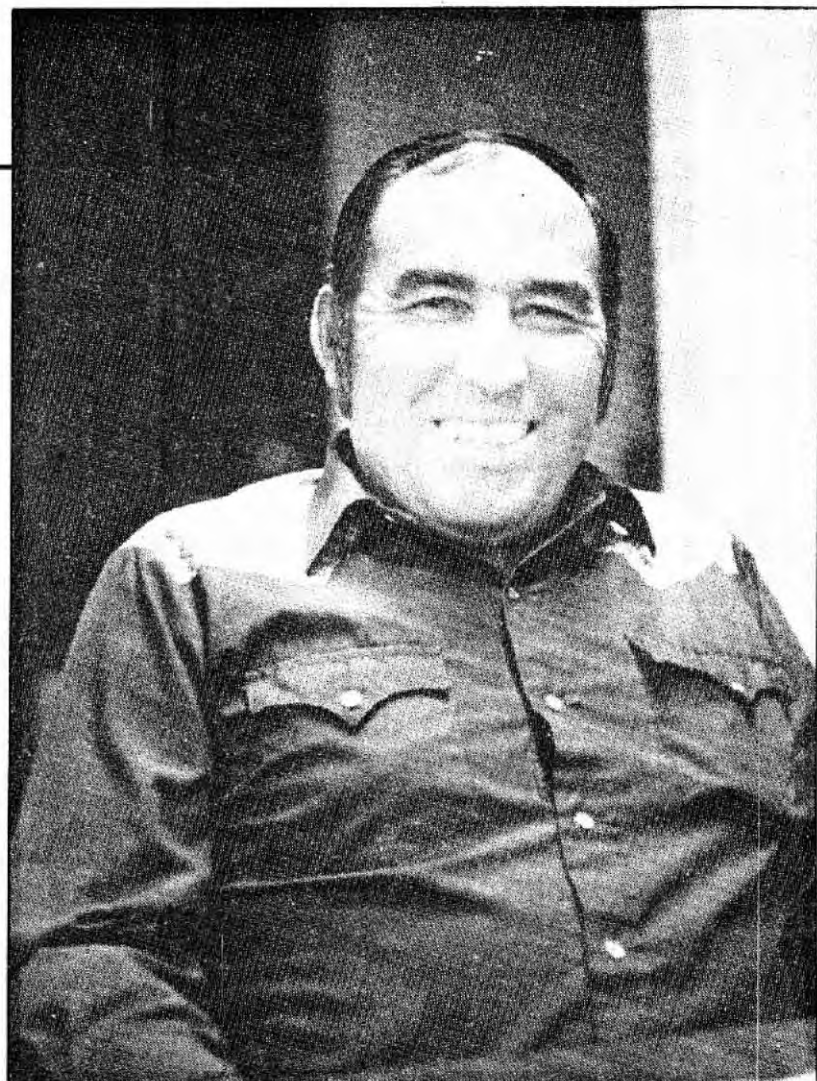
Kenneth Peltier has run in the last two elections and did not win. Can't you see why he needs absentee ballots — maybe he can't win with tribal people who knows him.

I need your vote of confidence to continue working for you. I think my rights as well as civil rights at this complex have been violated and I shall pursue it.

To speak for myself — I am bound by a code of by-laws framed by myself and I expect this from others. I can only work with a plumb line atmosphere, in fact, I shall demand that and I shall be no yes person for anyone.

**Thelma Wano Bateman  
Tribal Secretary/Treasurer**





## Potawatomi Profile:

### Chairman Leon Bruno

**Q.** Chairman Bruno, could you please give our HowNiKan readers a little bit of your family background; who you are related to and what you know about your Potawatomi roots?

**A.** I can only trace my family back to my great-grandfather on my father's side of the family. He was John Baptist Bruno and my great-grandmother was Mary (Rhodd) Bruno. They had seven children: Sam, John, Joe, Josie, Julie, Mose and Belle.

Mose, who was the youngest son, was my grandfather, and my grandmother was Frances Shopwatuck. They had five children: Johnny, Mike Mose, Bob and Beatrice. My father is Mike; the second son. He married Era Mae Perry from Wynnewood, Oklahoma. They had 12 children; nine of whom are still living: Francis, William, Carl, myself, Anthony, Barbara, Louise, Zona Gail and Tom.

I am married to Veta Horton and we have four children: Sally, Stacey, Rob and Scott. We also have three lovely grandchildren: Michael, Sara and Megan.

**Q.** What kind of past education or experience do you have that you have been able to utilize in your position as tribal chairman?

**A.** As far as education goes, I only attended school through the eighth grade, but I received my G.E.D. while in the Marine Corps. I have worked at a paying job since I was 15 years old so I have accumulated a lot of work experience that I have been able to use in this position.

I served as a Business Committee representative for four years in the seventies, back when the Potawatomi tribal complex was a little shotgun building located about where our gift shop is now. During that time I also served as the Potawatomi representative on the Absentee Shawnee's Housing Authority board of commissioners. I also served on the advisory board for the Indian Health Service of the Shawnee Clinic and on the executive board of directors for Central Tribes of the Shawnee Area (CTSA).

I have been self-employed as an electrical contractor for the past 10 years and that experience has helped me a lot in serving as your tribal chairman.

**Q.** Give us a definition of what you feel the tribal chairman's job description is.

**A.** I think the job description of the chairman includes aspects of being a judge, an attorney, a business person, a public relations person and a laborer. You run up against all kinds of situations in the role of chairman! But I have really enjoyed serving and I have always felt that it was an honor — even when the going gets rough!

**Q.** What do you feel have been your greatest achievements since taking office in July, 1983?

**A.** I think our most important achievement has been implementing the referendum vote for the people. I'm also proud of the HowNiKan, for it has become a vital link between the tribal office and the people — and I'd like to give the thanks for that to you. Pot. Also, we have been able to establish a

very good relationship with the four other tribes within the Shawnee Agency: the Absentee Shawnee, Iowa, Sac and Fox and Kickapoo. I think that's very important. As you well know, we have been working towards a goal of unity and that's not only for our own people but for all Indian people.

**Q.** What have been your biggest disappointments since taking office?

**A.** My biggest disappointment? When I first ran for tribal chairman, my promise was that, if elected, I would work to put the power back in the hands of the general council, with all major decisions being made by them. My definition of "general council" is ALL tribal members over the age of 21, regardless of where they live. But some of my former supporters have turned against this administration because they feel that general council means those who attend the meeting held annually on the last Saturday in June at the tribal complex in Shawnee.

**Q.** What do you feel are the tribal administration's top priorities at this point in history?

**A.** I feel like our top priorities are the constitutional changes we have in the works that will establish for the tribe a government with a legislative branch, an executive branch and a judicial system. I feel that we must have this if we are ever going to become self-sufficient.

**Q.** Since the last per capita payment has been made, what can the tribe now offer in the way of services to tribal members living outside the Shawnee area?

**A.** That's a disappointing question because we really don't have a lot to offer our tribal members at this time. For those who live outside our Shawnee Agency, there are only the scholarship and health aids programs available. When the Don Perrote cultural lecture series is finished we will make language cassettes and lecture videotapes available to the tribal members who are interested. A lot of us feel that this is the most valuable thing we have to offer at this time.

**Q.** Since the issue of tribal sovereignty has become a bone of contention among many politicians and even some tribal members, would you care to share your feelings on the issue?

**A.** I feel that the Potawatomi Tribe is a sovereign nation, and by that I don't mean we are "super citizens," as has been quoted by some in the past. I mean we are a sovereign nation and have the right to govern our own affairs without outside interference from other governmental organizations. I feel that we also have the right to deal with outside corporations on our own. The United States Government recognized the Potawatomi Nation as a sovereign entity the first time they signed a treaty with our forefathers in January of 1789. The United States Constitution and even the constitution of the State of Oklahoma have reaffirmed that status.

**Q.** What do you see happening in the immediate AND the far future of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe?

**A.** In the immediate future I would like to see the tribe build up its land base because, referring back to the last question, you are only a sovereign governing body over your own land. So, the tribe needs more land. Then we could get the large corporations to build on our tribal trust lands, which would contribute to our becoming self-sufficient. Eventually we might be able to issue per capita payments from the tribe's own income and not have to depend on federal funding and other governmental monies to operate our tribal complex.



## Absentee ballots are in the mail!

When tribal members receive their absentee ballots they will find two candidates for each business committee opening: Kenneth Peltier and incumbent Thelma Wano Bateman for the position of Secretary-Treasurer and Wanita Clifford and incumbent Doyle Owens for the position of Vice Chairman.

On June 4, after careful study, the Election Committee unanimously approved a resolution granting a 20 day extension "grace period" to all potential candidates in the first election to be held under the new election ordinance.

According to the resolution, "The first election held under the new ordinance has generated some misunderstanding of the requirements for filing under the new rules and, in the interest of providing a fair election an exception should be granted for this initial filing period only, of 20 days extra time to comply with the requirements of the (election) ordinance."

The resolution, according to Election Commission Chairman Richard Whitecotton, was necessitated by the fact that, after careful review, it was discovered that not a single candidate for office had met all of the filing for candidacy stipulations.

"Extending the filing date for this first absentee ballot election,"

said Whitecotton, "was the only way the Election Commission felt it could run a fair election. Since this is the first time in the history of the tribe we've had absentee ballots, we want to make every effort to assure that everyone who wants to participate gets a fair chance."

Absentee voters will also get a chance to vote on a proposed resolution "authorizing the Business Committee of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe of Oklahoma to negotiate and execute attorney contracts for submission to the Secretary of the Interior for approval in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations (see accompanying resolution).

Absentee voters are asked to simply mark a square in the box directly beside their chosen candidates name and a square in the "for" or "against" box under the proposed resolution. They are then asked to place their marked ballots in a small plain envelope and seal. **Do not sign your name to the ballot.** The plain envelope containing the ballot must then be placed inside the envelope provided which is addressed to the Election Commission. **Be sure to include name, address and tribal roll number on the outer envelope addressed to the Commission.**

All ballots must be at the Shawnee, Ok Post Office by 10 a.m., Saturday, June 30, 1984.

### Sample Resolution - Do Not Mail!

RESOLUTION POTT NO. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE OF THE CITIZEN BAND POTAWATOMI TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ATTORNEY CONTRACTS FOR SUBMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR FOR APPROVAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 25, ss 89.14

WHEREAS: The Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe is a Federally recognized Tribe of American Indians organized under the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of 1936, and the General Council is the governing body; AND

WHEREAS: The Citizen Band Potawatomi Business Committee is authorized by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Tribe to act in all matters, except those relating to claims and treaties, on behalf of the Tribe; AND

WHEREAS: The Business Committee must have legal counsel on matters relating to Tribal business, legislation, and finance in order to correctly perform their elected duties; AND

WHEREAS: Specialized areas of the law may require retention of an attorney with specific experience and skills to suit the needs of the Tribe other than those available from a general counsel; AND

WHEREAS: The code of Federal Regulations, Title 25, ss 89.14 reads: "In case the tribal business committee or board has specific authority from the tribe to employ tribal attorneys and to execute a contract for that purpose, the tribal business committee or board may negotiate with attorneys and enter into a contract subject to approval of the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representatives as provided by law."

WHEREAS: It is the desire of the General Council to provide specific authority to the Business Committee to hire attorneys as specified in CFR 25, ss 89.14, NOW

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Business Committee of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma is hereby authorized in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 25, ss 89.14, to negotiate and execute contracts with attorneys as needed to conduct the affairs of the Tribe.

Mark this box if you are FOR the above resolution..... ☐ FOR

Mark this box if you are AGAINST the above resolution..... ☐ AGAINST

NOTE! THIS BALLOT MUST BE SEALED IN THE SAME ENVELOPE WITH YOUR ELECTION BALLOT.

**Grant (from page one)**

grant application that the project will last two years. It is anticipated that development of the tribal codes will be through a consulting agreement with attorneys F. Browning Pipestem and G. William Rice.

This project is a result of nearly seven months of planning and discussion by tribal members,

Business Committee members and tribal staff. The official entity that will draft preliminary codes is the Indian Legal Resource Center, Inc., Norman, Oklahoma, a corporation with extensive experience in drafting legal codes for tribes throughout the country.

The project is scheduled to begin July 1, 1984.

The annual public meeting and a special meeting of the General Council of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma will be held at the Long Room of the Ship-She-Wano Building at the Potawatomi Tribal Complex at 3:00 p.m., June 30, 1984. Voting will be from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Fire Lodge at the Potawatomi Tribal Complex under supervision of the Election Commission.

### Agenda

- 3:00 Call to Order — Leon Bruno, Chairman  
Introduction of Business Committee
- 3:05 Invocation — Franklin Wano, Hereditary Chief
- 3:15 Reading of previous minutes — Thelma Wano Bateman
- 3:30 Progress report — Tribal Programs — John Barrett, Tribal Administrator
- 4:30 Report on Constitutional Revision — John Barrett
- 5:00 Report of Election Commission — Election and Referendum results
- 5:15 Adjourn Regular Meeting, Convene Special Meeting. Agenda: Discussion of John Schoemann personnel action — Leon Bruno
- 6:00 Adjourn Special Meeting

Dinner Will Be Served To All At The Powwow Grounds — Serving starts at 6:00

Political Advertisement

## Kenneth Peltier for Secretary-Treasurer

As a candidate for Secretary/Treasurer, I support:

1. The right for all council members to vote, not just a small minority in the Shawnee area. My opponent is on record as opposing this right of all members.
2. The right of the tribe to regulate contractors doing business with us and avoidance of conflicts of interest. My opponent testified in Federal Court against the tribe on behalf of the bingo contractors and accepted direct employment by them.
3. The constitution and by-laws of the tribe. My opponent is part of a dissident faction that tried to illegally take over tribal government.
4. The decisions of the United States Supreme Court that determined Indian tribes are sovereign governments that are obligated to promote and protect the peace and welfare of the tribe.

Please consider my position on these vital issues and examine the voting record of my opponent.

**Vote for Kenneth Peltier for  
Secretary/Treasurer.**



# Sacred Heart Mission

Sacred Heart Mission - often called the "Cradle of Catholicism in Oklahoma" - was established by Father Isidore Robot and Brother Dominic Lambert, Benedictine monks from the Abbey of Pierre-Qui-Vire in France.

The monks traveled to the isolated spot, located eight miles east of Asher, at the request of the newly relocated Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe. A mission, a monastery for themselves and a school for the Indians eventually sprung from the spot nicknamed "Robot's Square Mile." It was from this site in Indian Territory that monks and missionaries went out and eventually established some 40 wilderness Catholic churches and missions.

The first day classes were begun in November, 1877. A boy's boarding school opened in 1880 - with three students - and a girl's boarding school and a convent were opened the same year.

Two log cabins and a bakery building are all that is left of the

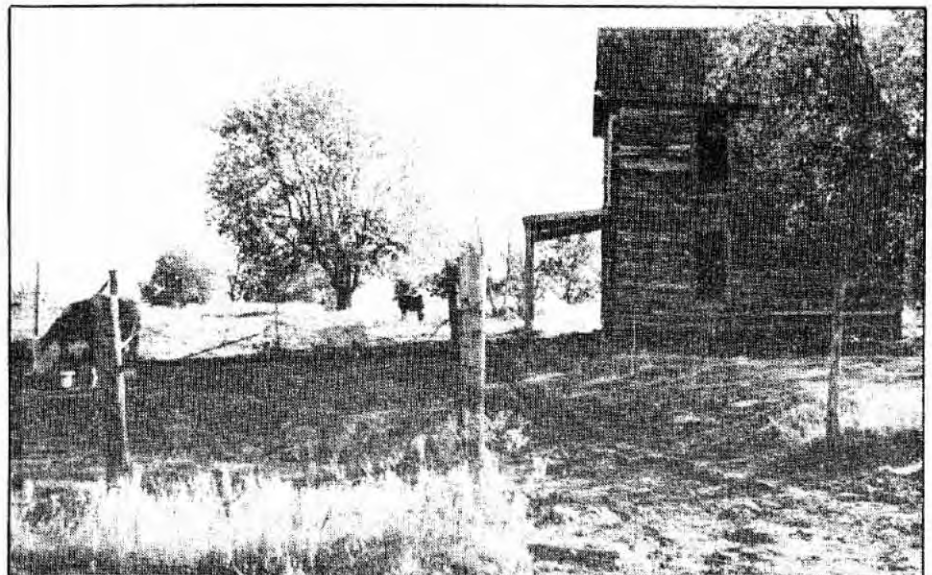
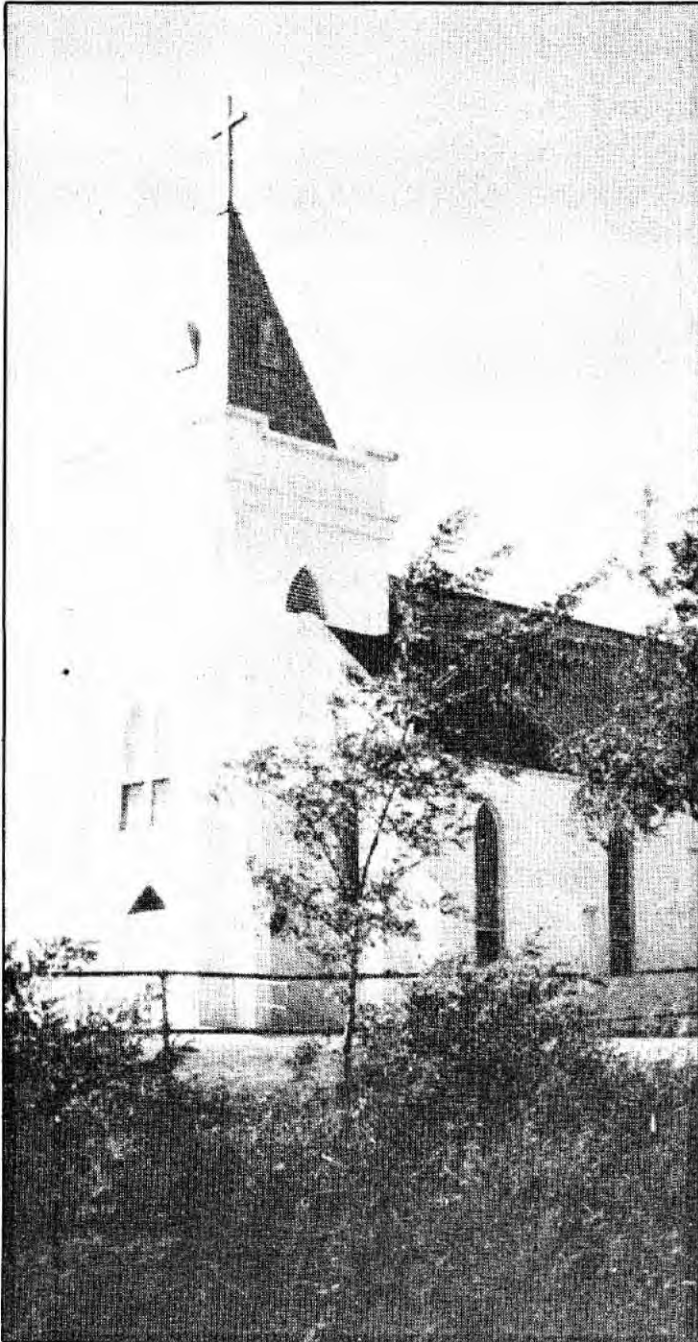
historical original operation. In 1901 a fire destroyed most of the complex, although the Sisters of Mercy located their new school southeast of the original after the fire, where it remained active until 1943. The monastery, also rebuilt, was destroyed by an earthquake in the 1950's.

Sacred Heart College, established in 1883, moved to Shawnee after the fire and was in operation until 1926. In 1915 the monks had opened the Catholic University of Oklahoma in Shawnee - which is now St. Gregory's College.

Friends and relatives of people buried in any of Sacred Heart's cemeteries are invited to attend a covered dish dinner at the church hall on June 24. The Friends of the Sacred Heart Cemeteries Committee plans on identifying unmarked graves and plotting sites.



Charlotte Vieux Thorpe, (above) the mother of athlete Jim Thorpe, is buried at Sacred Heart in the churchyard (below) cemetery. Right: a bronze plated marker over the grave of Isidore Robot. Below: cows have replaced the original hustle and bustle of Indian Territory's first Catholic Mission.





## Thanks for your support!

The list of HowNiKan supporters and donors grows little by little, month by month, and we sure do appreciate it. Don't forget that all donations to the HowNiKan are tax deductible. Your support of the tribal newspaper is a tangible example of your pride in your heritage and hope for the future. With your help and support the Potawatomi spirit will, indeed, live forever.

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**YES! I believe that a Tribal newspaper is imperative for the dissemination of information to Tribal members. Please accept this donation as a show of my support.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail to: HowNiKan, Rt. 5, Box 151,  
Shawnee, Ok. 74801

## Jim Thorpe Olympics

The Native American Fine Arts Society has been working for the past six months on coordinating the Native American community's effort to best present Native American cultural activities during the upcoming 1984 Olympics to be held in Los Angeles. The "Jim Thorpe Memorial Pow-Wow and Native Games" is the proposed title of the overall activities being planned. Hopefully all activities will take place in the time span of one week. The tentative target date is sometime between July 12, 1984 and August 12, 1984.

The events being planned include: 7-Day Pow-Wow and Native Games Tournaments; 7-Day Sporting Events Tournaments Nationally; Native American Arts-Crafts Show; National Native American Art Contest; Five Posters depicting Jim Thorpe Memorial

Pow-Wow and Native Games and Olympics Theme (Prizes to be decided); Native Food Dinners; Tribal Development Presentations; Native American Film Fair; Native American Literature and Poetry Fair; Native American Culture Presentations (Men and Women Speakers); Honoring of all Indian Athletes Competing on the Olympic Level; Native American Tourism Presentation; National Arts Directory; and Health Services Presentations.

We are encouraging your interest in their efforts. For more information, please contact Dan Hill or Fern Mathias at Jim Thorpe Memorial Pow-Wow & Native Games Tournament, Native American Fine Arts Society, P.O. Box A-87, Los Angeles, California 90026, or phone (213) 974-7387.

## Health Aids report

The Prosthetic Program has been very busy this year in servicing Citizen Band tribal members with the cost of health aid devices.

We have helped pay for 97 pairs of eyeglasses, 24 dentures, 11 hearing aids, and 1 prosthetic device since January, 1984.

The Prosthetic Program is available to all tribal members from all over the United States. If you need assistance in purchasing any of the named devices above you may contact us for an application.

Write to:

Opal Coachman  
Potawatomi Tribe  
Prosthetic Program  
Route 5, Box 151  
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801

## Help CHR's help you

The Citizen Band Potawatomi Community Health Representative Program is here to help YOU but we need to know who you are and what kind of assistance you need. If you have problems, medical or otherwise, please let us know. We are here to help you.

Some of the problems we have assisted with include obesity, chemical dependency, high blood pressure, diabetes and even water and sewage problems. Our staff is well trained in many areas and, if we are unable to help you directly, can put you in touch with someone who can.

Let us know who you are and what your needs are. You can contact us at 275-3121 or write to: Citizen Band Potawatomi CHR Program, Rt. 5, Box 151, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

## A Message From Doyle Owens

American Indians have a unique status among the peoples of the United States: we are citizens under three sovereign governments.

First, we are citizens of the United States, a right paid for with the blood of our forefathers.

Second, we are citizens of the State of Oklahoma, the Potawatomi were the first United States citizens to legally reside in the state.

Third, we are members of the Citizen Band Potawatomi, a sovereign government since 1938 when our Constitution was adopted. Our grandfathers paid for this land with cash. We have a treaty with the United States signed in 1886 that forever gives us the right to govern our own land. I support this right! My opponent has published articles in the newspapers asking Congress to take this right away. She is part of a dissident faction that tried to take over the Tribal government in violation of the Constitution. She supports the non-tribal bingo management group that is opposed by over 250 tribal members because they would not properly account for the Tribes' earnings. I am for strict accounting of Tribal funds and the right of self government. I ask for your support and vote.

## Keep Doyle Owens As Vice Chairman